

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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)
In the Matter of)
)
International Veneer Company, Inc.)
)
_____)

Case No. 10-07

Order

The Office of Antiboycott Compliance, Bureau of Industry and Security, United States Department of Commerce (“BIS”), has determined to initiate an administrative proceeding pursuant to Section 11(c) of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. §§ 2401-2420 (2000)) (the “Act”)¹ and the Export Administration Regulations (currently codified at 15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2012)) (the “Regulations”), against International Veneer, Inc. (IVC), a domestic concern, organized under the laws of the United States and doing business in the State of Virginia, based on allegations set forth in the Proposed Charging Letter, dated August 8, 2012, that alleged that IVC committed seven violations of the Regulations.

¹Since August 21, 2001, the Act has been in lapse and the President, through Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 (3 C.F.R., 2001 Comp. 783 (2002)), which has been extended by successive Presidential Notices, the most recent being that of August 15, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 49699 (Aug. 16, 2012)), has continued the Regulations in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.).

Specifically, the charges are:

Seven Violations of 15 C.F.R. §760.5 - Failing to Report the Receipt of a Request To Engage in a Restrictive Trade Practice or Foreign Boycott Against a Country Friendly to the United States.

During the period 2007 through 2010, IVC engaged in transactions involving the sale and/or transfer of goods or services (including information) from the United States to Lebanon and United Arab Emirates, activities in the interstate or foreign commerce of the United States, as defined in Section 760.1(d) of the Regulations. In connection with these activities, IVC on seven occasions received a request to take an action which would have the effect of furthering or supporting a restrictive trade practice or unsanctioned foreign boycott. IVC failed to report its receipts of these requests to the Department of Commerce, as required by Section 760.5 of the Regulations.

BIS and IVC have entered into a Settlement Agreement pursuant to Section 760.18(a) of the Regulations whereby the parties have agreed to settle this matter in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein and the terms of the Settlement Agreement have been approved by me.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

FIRST, a civil penalty of \$ 12,600 is assessed against IVC and shall be paid to the U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days from the date of entry of this Order. Payment of this sum shall be made in the manner specified in the attached instructions.

SECOND, pursuant to the Debt Collections Act of 1982, as amended (31 U.S.C. §§ 3701-3720E (1983 and Supp. 2001)), the civil penalty owed under this Order accrues interest as more fully described in the attached Notice and, if payment is not made by the due date specified herein, IVC will be assessed, in addition to the full amount of the penalty and interest, a penalty charge and an administrative charge, as more fully described in the attached Notice.

THIRD, the timely payment of the sum of \$ 12,600 is hereby made a condition to the granting, restoration or continuing validity of any export license, permission, or privilege granted, or to be granted, to IVC.

Accordingly, if IVC should fail to pay the civil penalty in a timely manner, the undersigned may enter an Order denying all of IVC's export privileges for a period of one year from the date of entry of this Order.

FOURTH, the Proposed Charging Letter, the Settlement Agreement and this Order shall be made available to the public, and a copy of this Order shall be served upon IVC.

This Order, which constitutes the final agency action in this matter, is effective immediately.



David W. Mills
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for
Export Enforcement

Entered this 19th day of December, 2012

Attachments

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT OF SETTLEMENT AMOUNT

1. The check should be made payable to:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

2. The check should be mailed to:

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Industry and Security

Room 6622

14th & Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Attention: Francine Dodson

NOTICE

The Order to which this Notice is attached describes the reasons for the assessment of the civil monetary penalty. It also specifies the amount owed and the date by which payment of the civil penalty is due and payable.

Under the Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended (31 U.S.C. §§ 3701-3720E (1983 and Supp. 2001)) and the Federal Claims Collection Standards (65 Fed. Reg. 70390-70406, November 22, 2000, to be codified at 31 C.F.R. Parts 900-904), interest accrues on any and all civil monetary penalties owed and unpaid under the Order, from the date of the Order until paid in full. The rate of interest assessed respondent is the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury on the date that the Order was entered. However, interest is waived on any portion paid within 30 days of the date of the Order. See 31 U.S.C. §3717 and 31 C.F.R. §901.9.

The civil monetary penalty will be delinquent if not paid by the due date specified in the Order. If the penalty becomes delinquent, interest will continue to accrue on the balance remaining due and unpaid, and respondent will also be assessed both an administrative charge to cover the cost of processing and handling the delinquent claim and a penalty charge of six percent per year. However, although the penalty charge will be computed from the date that the civil penalty becomes delinquent, it will be assessed only on sums due and unpaid for over 90 days after that date. See 31 U.S.C. §3717 and 4 C.F.R. §901.9.

The foregoing constitutes the initial written notice and demand to respondent in accordance with Section 901.2 of the Federal claims Collection Standards (31 C.F.R. §901.2(b)).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

In the Matter of

International Veneer Company, Inc.

Case No. 10-07

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This agreement is made by and between International Veneer Company, Inc., (“IVC”), a domestic concern, organized under the laws of the United States and doing business in the State of Virginia, and the Office of Antiboycott Compliance, Bureau of Industry and Security, United States Department of Commerce (“BIS”), pursuant to Section 766.18(a) of the Export Administration Regulations (currently codified at 15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2012))(the “Regulations”), issued pursuant to the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. §§ 2401-2420 (2000))(the “Act”).¹

¹Since August 21, 2001, the Act has been in lapse and the President, through Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 (3 C.F.R., 2001 Comp. 783 (2002)), which has been extended by successive Presidential Notices, the most recent being that of August 15, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 49699 (Aug. 16, 2012)), has continued the Regulations in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.).

WHEREAS, BIS has notified IVC of its intention to initiate an administrative proceeding against IVC pursuant to the Act and the Regulations by issuing the Proposed Charging Letter dated August 8, 2012, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, IVC has reviewed the Proposed Charging Letter and is aware of the allegations against it and the administrative sanctions which could be imposed against it if the allegations are found to be true; IVC fully understands the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and enters into this Settlement Agreement voluntarily and with full knowledge of its rights; and IVC states that no promises or representations have been made to it other than the agreements and considerations herein expressed; and

WHEREAS, IVC neither admits nor denies the truth of the allegations, but wishes to settle and dispose of the allegations made in the Proposed Charging Letter by entering into the Settlement Agreement; and

Whereas, IVC agrees to be bound by the appropriate Order ("Order") when entered,

NOW, THEREFORE, IVC and BIS agree as follows:

1. Under the Act and the Regulations, BIS has jurisdiction over IVC with respect to the matters alleged in the Proposed Charging Letter.
2. BIS will impose a civil penalty in the amount of \$ 12,600. IVC will pay to the U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days from the date of entry of the Order, and in accordance with the terms of the Order, when entered, the amount \$ 12,600 in complete settlement of all matters set forth in the Proposed Charging Letter.
3. The timely payment of the amount agreed to in paragraph 2 is hereby made a condition of the granting, restoration, or continuing validity of any export license, permission, or privilege granted, or to be granted, to IVC. Failure to make payment of this amount shall result in the denial of all of IVC's export privileges for a period of one year from the date of entry of the Order.

4. Subject to the approval of this Settlement Agreement, pursuant to paragraph 9 hereof, IVC hereby waives all rights to further procedural steps in this matter (except with respect to any alleged violation of this Settlement Agreement or the Order, when entered) including, without limitation, any right to:
 - A. An administrative hearing regarding the allegations in the Proposed Charging Letter;
 - B. Request a refund of the funds paid by IVC pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and the Order, when entered; or
 - C. Seek judicial review or otherwise contest the validity of this Settlement Agreement or the Order, when entered.

5. BIS, upon entry of the Order, will not initiate any administrative or judicial proceeding, or make a referral to the Department of Justice for criminal proceedings against IVC with respect to any violation of Section 8 of the Act or Part 760 of the Regulations arising out of the transactions set forth in the Proposed Charging Letter or any other transaction that was disclosed to or reviewed by BIS in the course of its investigation.

6. IVC understands that BIS will disclose publicly the Proposed Charging Letter, this Settlement Agreement, and the Order, when entered.
7. This Settlement Agreement is for settlement purposes only, and does not constitute an admission by IVC that it has violated the Regulations, or an admission of the truth of any allegation contained in the Proposed Charging Letter or referred to in this Settlement Agreement. Therefore, if this Settlement Agreement is not accepted and the Order not entered by the Assistant Secretary for Export Enforcement, BIS may not use this Settlement Agreement against IVC in any administrative or judicial proceeding.
8. No agreement, understanding, representation or interpretation not contained in this Settlement Agreement may be used to vary or otherwise affect the terms of this Settlement Agreement or the Order, when entered, nor shall this Settlement Agreement bind, constrain or otherwise limit any action by any other agency or department of the United States Government with respect to the facts and circumstances herein addressed.

This paragraph shall not limit IVC's right to challenge any action brought by any other agency based on a referral by BIS or any employee thereof, in contravention of paragraph 5 of this Settlement Agreement.

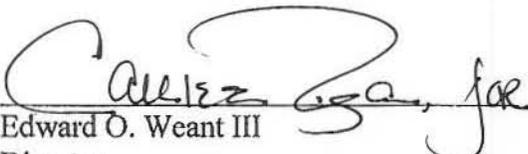
9. This Settlement Agreement will become binding on BIS only when approved by the Assistant Secretary for Export Enforcement by entering the Order.

INTERNATIONAL VENEER COMPANY, INC.



DATE: 12/12/12

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Edward O. Weant III
Director
Office of Antiboycott Compliance

DATE: 12.18.12

Attachment



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of Industry and Security
Washington, D.C. 20230

PROPOSED CHARGING LETTER

August 8, 2012

International Veneer Company, Inc.
1551 Montgomery Street
South Hill, Virginia 23970

Attention: Mr. Tyler Howerton
Chief Financial Officer

Case No. 10-07

Gentlemen/Ladies:

We, the Office of Antiboycott Compliance, Bureau of Industry and Security, United States Department of Commerce ("BIS"), have reason to believe that you, International Veneer Company, Inc., on seven occasions, have violated the Export Administration Regulations (currently codified at 15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2012))(the "Regulations"),¹ which are issued under the authority of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. §§ 2401-2420 (2000)) (the "Act").²

We charge that you committed seven violations of Section 760.5 of the Regulations, in that, on seven occasions, you failed to report to the Department of Commerce ("Department") your receipt of a request to engage in a restrictive trade practice or boycott, as required by the Regulations.

We allege that:

You, International Veneer Company, Inc., are, and at all times relevant were, a domestic concern resident in the State of Virginia and, as such, are a United States person as defined in Section 760.1(b) of the Regulations.

¹The transactions and violations alleged occurred during the period 2007 through 2010. The governing Regulations are found in the 2007 through 2010 versions of the Code of Federal Regulations (15 C.F.R. Parts 730-774 (2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010)). The prior years' Regulations are substantially the same as the 2012 version of the Regulations which governs the procedural aspects of this matter.

²Since August 21, 2001, the Act has been in lapse and the President, through Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 (3 C.F.R., 2001 Comp. 783 (2002)), which has been extended by successive Presidential Notices, the most recent of which was August 12, 2011 (76 Fed. Reg. 50661 (August 16, 2011)), has continued the Regulations in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1707 (2000)).



During the period April 2007 through March 2010, you engaged in transactions involving the sale and/or transfer of goods or services (including information) from the United States to Lebanon and United Arab Emirates, activities in the interstate or foreign commerce of the United States, as defined in Section 760.1(d) of the Regulations.

Charges 1-7 (15 C.F.R. § 760.5 - Failing to Report the Receipt of a Request to Engage in a Restrictive Trade Practice or Foreign Boycott Against a Country Friendly to the United States)

In connection with the activities referred to above, during the period April 2007 through March 2010, on seven occasions, you received a request described in Table A, which is attached and incorporated herein by this reference, to take an action which would have the effect of furthering or supporting a restrictive trade practice or unsanctioned foreign boycott. Section 760.5 of the Regulations requires United States persons to report to the Department their receipts of such requests. You failed to report to the Department your receipts of these requests.

By failing to report your receipts of these requests, as directed by Section 760.5 of the Regulations, you are in violation of Section 760.5. We therefore charge you with seven violations of Section 760.5 of the Regulations.

Accordingly, administrative proceedings are instituted against you pursuant to Part 766 of the Regulations for the purpose of obtaining an Order imposing administrative sanctions.³

You are entitled to a hearing on the record as provided in Section 766.6 of the Regulations. If you wish to have a hearing on the record, you must file a written demand for it with your answer. Under Section 766.3(a) and 766.4 of the Regulations, you are entitled to be represented by counsel or other authorized representative who has power of attorney to represent you and, under Section 766.18 of the Regulations, you may also seek a settlement agreement without a hearing.

³Administrative sanctions may include any or all of the following:

- a. A maximum civil penalty of the greater of \$250,000 per violation or twice the value of the transaction that is the basis of the violation (see International Emergency Economic Powers Enhancement Act of 2007, Pub.L. No. 110-96, 121 Stat. 1011 (2007)).
- b. Denial of export privileges (see § 764.3(a)(2) of the Regulations); and/or
- c. Exclusion from practice before BIS (see § 764.3(a)(3) of the Regulations).

Under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Flexibility Act, you may be eligible for assistance from the Office of the National Ombudsman of the Small Business Administration in this matter.⁴

If you fail to answer the allegations contained in this letter within thirty (30) days after service as provided in Section 766.6, such failure will be treated as a default under Section 766.7.

As provided in Section 766.3, I am referring this matter to the Administrative Law Judge. Pursuant to an Interagency Agreement between BIS and the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard is providing administrative law judge services, to the extent that such services are required under the Regulations, in connection with the matters set forth in this letter. Therefore, in accordance with the instructions in Section 766.5(a) of the Regulations, your answer should be filed with:

U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center
40 South Gay Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-4022

Attention: Administrative Law Judge

Also, in accordance with the instructions in Section 766.5(b) of the Regulations, a copy of your answer should also be served on the Bureau of Industry and Security at:

Office of the Chief Counsel for Industry and Security
Room H-3839
Bureau of Industry and Security
U.S. Department of Commerce
14th Street & Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Sincerely,

Edward O. Weant, III
Director
Office of Antiboycott Compliance

Enclosures

⁴To determine eligibility and get more information, please see: [Http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman/](http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman/).

Table A

Schedule of Alleged Violations of Section 760.5
Failure to Report Receipts of Boycott Requests

International Veneer Company, Inc.
 Case No. 10-07

Item	Reference	Date Request Received	Date Reporting Violation*	Boycotting Country	Boycott Request
1	Letter of Credit # 07IA208596-485	4-10-07	7-31-07	Lebanon	46B: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . G-A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY CARRIER/MASTER OR THEIR AGENT ATTESTING THAT THE VESSEL IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE PORT OF DESTINATION.
2	Letter of Credit # 07IA209590-485	8-30-07	10-31-07	Lebanon	46B: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . G-A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY CARRIER/MASTER OR THEIR AGENT ATTESTING THAT THE VESSEL IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE PORT OF DESTINATION
3	Letter of Credit # 07IA210551-485	11-28-07	1-31-08	Lebanon	46B: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . G-A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE CARRIER /MASTER OR THEIR AGENT ATTESTING THAT THE VESSEL IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE PORT OF DESTINATION
4	Letter of Credit # 08IA211289-485	2-25-08	4-30-08	Lebanon	46B: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE CARRIER/MASTER OR THEIR AGENT ATTESTING THAT THE VESSEL IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE PORT OF DESTINATION

Item	References	Date Request Received	Date Reporting Violation*	Boycotting Country	Boycott Request
5	Letter of Credit # LC008620	3-4-09	4-30-09	Lebanon	46A: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . G) +CERTIFICATE ISSUED AND SIGNED BY THE CARRIER OR HIS AGENT OR THE MASTER OR HIS AGENT, STATING THAT 'THE CARRYING VESSEL SUBJECT TO BILL OF LADING NO DATED IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO THE PORT OF DESTINATION
6	Letter of Credit # 09IS215894-325	8-12-09	10-31-09	Lebanon	46A: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . F-A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE OWNER, CARRIER, MASTER OR IT'S AGENT ATTESTING THAT THE VESSEL IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER INTO ARABIAN PORTS.
7	Letter of Credit # ILC41/10/35865	3-30-10	4-30-10	United Arab Emirates	46B: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: . . . 6. CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY SHIPPING COMPANY OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFYING THAT: . . . (D) THE CARRYING VESSEL IS ALLOWED BY THE ARAB AUTHORITIES TO CALL AT ANY ARABIAN PORTS

* As provided in Section 760.5(b)(4)(i) of the Regulations, where the person receiving the request is a U.S. person located in the U.S., each report of requests must be postmarked by the last day of the month following the calendar quarter in which the request was received.